(b) The amount of compensation will be given as per rules.

**Duty on palm oil**

2390. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether vanaspati producers have revived their demand to cut duty on palm oil to reduce burden on the industry; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government do not propose making any change in the import duty on palm oil at present.

**Amount due on sugar mills**

†2391. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that huge amount of dues of the sugarcane growers were outstanding against sugar mills at the end of June, 2002.

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) whether Government have taken any action for payment of such outstanding amount?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) and (b) As per the information furnished by the State Governments/sugar mills, a Statement showing the Statewise position of cane price arrears as on 30.6.2002 is given below.

(c) The responsibility of ensuring timely payment of the cane price dues lies with the State Governments, who have the necessary powers

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.